Daily Report

Latin America

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Presidential Summit Reportedly 'Postponed'

PA0511233388 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2245 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] San Jose, 5 Nov (DPA)—The meeting that the five Central American presidents were scheduled to hold on 26 November in San Salvador has been postponed [suspendida].

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto has stated that Honduras will not attend the meeting because of the Nicaragua-Honduras legal dispute—Nicaragua has filed suit against Honduras at the International Court of Justice.

The summit meeting was initially scheduled to be held on 7 August, the first anniversary of the signing of the Esquipulas II peace plan.

Madrigal Nieto noted that the foreign ministers meeting that was to be held on 13 November in San Salvador will not take place either because Guatemala has announced that it will not be able to send its representative to that meeting.

The Costa Rican foreign minister said now both the peace plan and the executive commission, which is composed of the five Central American foreign ministers, are paralyzed.

Foreign Minister Madrigal Nieto stated his regrets over these unfortunate Central American developments.

Summit Still Scheduled

PA0711193488 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1910 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 7 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Guatemalan Government today stated that the Central American presidential summit has not been postponed, and that it is "fully" scheduled for 25-26 November in El Salvador.

Guatemalan Government spokeswoman Claudia Arenas said "We officially do not have any knowledge that the Central American presidential meeting has been postponed," as Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto announced Friday. [passage omitted]

President Cerezo has reiterated that in the talks held with his Central American counterparts, they have "all" expressed their "willingness" to participate in the El Salvador meeting, "aware of the need to obtain progress in the objectives of peace, security, and democracy in Central America."

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alfonso Cabrera said on Saturday that Guatemala will propose that the presidents agenda include a discussion of "speeding up" the legal mechanisms necessary to create the Central American parliament.

The presidents should also discuss "speeding up" the activities of the Esquipulas II peace treaty's executive verification commission, and analyze "everything dealing with the ecological problem in Central America."

Cabrera stressed that prior to the November 25-26 meeting, the Central American foreign ministers will meet on 14 November, taking advantage of the OAS assembly that will be held in El Salvador on 13-19 November, thus denying statements that Guatemala would not attend.

OLADE Ministerial Delegation Arrives

FL0511143088 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0055 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Ramiro Leon Torrat, chief of the International Economic Organizations Directorate of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation of Cuba [title as received], noted today the need to boost Latin American cooperation and find solutions to the foreign debt problem.

Interviewed at the Mexico City airport, Leon Torrat, who is heading a delegation of experts which will attend the 19th ministerial meeting of OLADE, asserted that this is a good time to develop cooperation plans in Latin America and that the energy sector is a strategic area for it.

He explained that the participants of the meeting will try to establish agreements that will commit governments to effective and true solidarity when any Latin American country is attacked politically or economically. Therefore, real agreements are urgently needed.

Leon Torrat highlighted the need to go beyond traditional cooperation methods to achieve a true regional commitment which would boost development in area countries.

Cuba

Castro Visits Expo-Cuba Site, Praises Workers

FL0711194388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1333 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, visited yesterday, Red Sunday, Expo-Cuba construction areas for the permanent exhibit of scientific and technical developments of the Republic of Cuba. During his visit, he chatted with the workers and the press.

[Begin recording] [Castro] I think this will be interesting for the people. I recall that those small exhibits we used to have near Revolution Square were visited by hundreds of thousands of people in a short period of time. That is where we got the idea for a permanent exhibit of scientific and technological achievements, and of economic and social development. For example, millions of people may hear about a nuclear powerplants, but have no idea of what a nuclear powerplant really is. Here, we'll have models of them. Millions of people may hear about a hydroaccumulator, but do not know what one is. Whatever we cannot exhibit here physically, will be exhibited by a model of it for many of those industries. We'll have models of a nickel factory and it will show what one consists of, what its technology is, how it works. We will have models of the Che Guevarra and (Came Uno) factories. We will have models of factories of all the country's major industries so that [words indistinct] have information about each one of those projects, especially the children, adolescents. I think that Expo-Cuba will be a place not only for factories to exhibit their products, but also a place which will (?provide) information for children and youths, who like this a lot. If you look at those exhibits [words indistinct] like the one at Pab-Expo right now, you'll see that it is always full there. People are anxious to get it.

[Reporter] Are you going to visit the fair?

[Castro] I may if I have time; but I don't have much time because I think it ends today. But this will be a [word indistinct] fair. I think it will also serve for recreation and will have all the (?necessary) facilities, a cafeteria, restaurant, [words indistinct]. Therefore, from several points of view, it will be a very important facility. I also think that the architects did a beautiful and fast project. [words indistinct] and I think that the minibrigades have matured during the construction of this. It is impressive for [word indistinct] visitors who have been here. They are impressed when they find out that the workers here are not specialized workers, but that they are minibrigade workers. They are impressed when they talk with workers and find out they are not construction workers.

[Reporter] Given the experience that the Expo-Cuba construction workers have obtained, will they help finish the projects for the Panamerican Games which have the same great importance as this exhibit?

[Castro] Well, the projects for the Panamerican Games will be divided. The Ministry of Construction will do part of it and the minibrigades will do another. They have divided the tasks. But I think that after building this, they can build anything. I went by that area a little while ago. That section of Havana will turn out very pretty. There are also a lot of housing units in the area for the Panamerican games, there are approximately 1,700 housing units. One of the largest projects for this is probably the housing projects. Those will then become houses for the workers. Their completion will coincide with the date [as heard]; immediately afterwards, they will be distributed among the workers just like the other minibrigade projects. A new and very pretty neighborhood will be built there. That will also beautify the entrance to the capital much more. It will also provide permanent facilities for youth and sportsmen. It includes tennis courts and a velodrome. During the 30 years of the revolution, we had not managed to build a velodrome, and finally our country will have one. During the 30 years of revolution, we had not managed to build an Olympic stadium, and our country will finally have one. Especially for some sports, [word indistinct], football; because we have a lot of ball fields, there isn't a province which doesn't have one. But we didn't have an Olympic stadium. I think those two facilities will be allow for great progress in the development of sports and for the recreation of the people. Tennis courts require land. however, its not a massively practiced sports. Nevertheless, I think we will have more of them. We also have the multipurpose room, this one here. This is a group of projects. Up to today, we only had the old sports palace which was built in other times. These will be facilities built by the revolution, after many years. We have not built many public buildings but we have built many schools, hospitals, factories, and other types of facilities.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] comrades will also be represented here as part of history.

[Castro interrupting] Well, the planners [word indistinct] the models I think should be here. They most certainly should be here when this center is inaugurated. I think that one of the things that should be permanently on exhibit here is the the way in which this was built, with an explanation about the time it took to build it and the way in which it was done. I have asked if there are film clips and photos of how we built this. I think we should have it as historical evidence. Many people will come to see this, millions of people, but they may not even have the slightest idea of the effort it took by the minibrigade workers to build this. I think there should be a permanent room with graphic displays on how this was done.

[Reporter] Commander, based on what you just said, [word indistinct] efforts of Expo-Cuba [passage indistinct].

[Castro] Yes. From an engineering point of view, it's very interesting. I had seen some columns around here, I think 14 of them, pointing to the sky. I was told the roof was being built underneath and then it was (?lifted) with a [word indinstinct]. This weighs hundreds of tons. The first time I returned, after having been told about this, I was

somewhat concerned. [laughter] Half-serious and half-jokingly I said to them: Are you sure this will hold it up. You can just imagine what it is to lift it with [word indistinct], these are huge machines. These [word indistinct] are incredible, they look more like a lightning rod than anything else. Simply imagine that it is capable of lifting the 600 or 700 tons that this roof weighs. So from an engineering point of view, I think this was something very innovative. Furthermore, it appears to be a very fast system for solving many problems. We had already seen this during a mechanical industry exhibit over there by Revolution Square. They used this (?method) which is an innovative process for builiding quickly. This can be used to build other facilities, factories, [word indistinct]. I think that from an engineering point of view it is a [word indistinct] progress. I have also noticed that people here are falling in love with their project. [end recording]

Tours Construction Site

FL0711154888 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, visited the Expo-Cuba site where 4,000 construction workers were carrying out their volunteer day this Red Sunday.

Fidel chatted with the workers, the majority of whom were working on the central pavilion. He also expressed interest in the progress of various other areas and access routes to the installation which is scheduled to be completed on 31 December in salute to the 30th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution.

The following members of the PCC Central Committee were also present at the site: Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the provincial committee of the party in Havana City; Pedro Chavez, president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government; and other leaders of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions in the capital.

President Chats With Exhibitors at Havana Fair

FL0811034588 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, continued this afternoon touring the installations of the sixth Havana fair, which will close tonight. Fidel chatted with exhibitors from Spain, Italy, Bulgaria, Romania, and the FRG, among others.

[Begin recording] [Spanish exhibitor from the industrial machinery production; identified by caption] Here we have a very new product. These are conveyor belts which can be used in the nickel, sugar, and salt industries. There are only two factories in the world that produce them. One is American, which is called (Indaroller), and this one. This one is as good as the other one and it costs half as much.

[Castro] It is as good.

[Exhibitor] The belts are placed like this. This is maintenance-free. It cleans itself. It is something that the people from the nickel industry who have come over here liked a lot. We are going to give them samples so they can try them. It is very interesting.

[Castro] Which is the other one you said was similar to this one?

[Exhibitor] No, these two are the same. This is special because is has a self-cleaning conveyor belt that has to be stopped. Other belts need to be stopped, the rolls have to be taken out, they have to be cleaned, and the belt has to be stopped for 2 weeks. This is completely self-cleaning.

[FRG speaker, speaking in Spanish, at site of concrete pump used to cast plaques in tall buildings; identified by caption] It is a 20-meter derrick. In the future, we are planning to build 22-meter derricks.

[Castro] If the derrick is in the crane, but if the crane is located in the project [words indistinct]. There was a big difference in the price they gave me and the actual cost of it. They had asked for an amount. I believe that it multiplied who knows how many times. When I asked for the reason, it was the derrick. When they spoke, they didn't mention the derrick.

[Unidentified speaker] The derrick is expensive. Now we want to know how with the help of ....

[Castro, interrupting] They produce the machine, don't they?

[FRG speaker] Well, we produce the machine, but 28 percent of this machine is already built here in Cuba.

[Castro] You produce the machine but, do you also produce the derrick or do you have to buy it?

[FRG speaker] We will also produce it here in the future.

[Castro] But you built the derrick now.

[FRG speaker] Yes.

[Castro] You don't only build the pump?

[FRG speaker] No, we build the derricks and pumps. We have derricks ranging from 16 to 62 meters.

[Castro] [Words indistinct] and bend?

[FRG speaker] Yes, it bends.

[Castro] And where does this go? [words indistinct] [end recording]

Talks About Tourism

FL08i1024588 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Live report by Mercedes Hernandez with FM unit at Havana's Pab-Expo during "Exclusivo" newscast hosted by Daniel Torres]

[Text] [Torres] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro is visiting for the second time the sixth Havana International Fair, which will close today. Yesterday, Fidel visited the Colombia, Mexico, France, PRC, Soviet Union, GDR, CSSR, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, and Spain pavilions. He continued his tour today.

Twenty-three countries representing over 30 commercial firms are attending the 6th Havana International Fair. Rebelde's "Exclusivo" establishes immediate contact with journalist Mercedes Hernandez, who is at the Pab-Expo in Havana, in one of the FM units, to offer us details of the commander in chief's tour. This is a direct contact with one of our FM units. Good evening.

[Hernandez] Good evening Daniel, good evening Cuba. During his tour through Pab-Expo, where the fair is taking place, Fidel expressed interest in technologies and products exhibited there. At the stand of Mexico's Otis firm, Fidel asked about the production cooperation between the enterprise and Cuba regarding elevators inasmuch as they are used in our country in various areas such as hospitals, buildings, and hotels.

Fidel noted the importance Cuban tourist industry has for the development of the economy. On this, he told "Exclusivo:"

[Begin recording] [Castro] The tourism industry is important because it should produce currency for the acquisition of those things the country needs for development. It is important; we have to work on learning how to treat visitors and combat all those things that perturb visitors. I know that when something is stolen from a visitor, all that is [words indistinct].

Now, there are some 120 km of undeveloped beaches in the northern part of the country and in the Keys. We are going to take over those 120 km. For example, in Cayo Coco there are over 20 km of undeveloped beaches. Between the northern coast and the keys, especially in the keys, there are around 120 km of beaches similar to the ones in Varadero. They are not all the same. Some are as good and others are not as good. But in reality our northern coast has fabulous natural resources in terms of beaches. Now we have to be capable of using these resources and exploiting them. We don't have great amounts of oil but we have sun, sea, and a healthy climate. Let's see.

[Hernandez] Commander, in this sense this is important because of the development tourism is going to have in the next few years, especially in the year 2,000.

[Castro] I believe we have no other choice than to develop it a lot. Another thing is that the development of beaches for international tourists helps domestic tourists. Let me give you a very simple example. There were 2,000 rooms in Varadero. During the summer, most of them were used by domestic tourists. But even if part of them are used during the summer, it will always be a small part. Thirty or 40 percent of the rooms are occupied. But this percentage will never be higher.

Tourists who come from more developed countries, with more economic resources, look for beaches and sun, especially during the winter months. When Varadero has 30,000 rooms, if 40 percent were occupied by foreign tourists, 18,000 would still be left for domestic tourists. So all the beaches that are going to be developed will also help domestic tourists. There shouldn't be the idea that everything that is built is going to help only.... [rephrases] Because there is also a coincidence. In this country, where there is a cat mentality regarding cold weather, regarding cold weather [repeats], nobody wants to get in when the water is 26 degrees. People go into the water when it is 28, 29, 30, and 31 degrees. But in the months of January, February, and December nobody goes to the beach here. Hotels were empty in the winter for many years. Nobody went. Now, in a way this complemented the interests of the country. Because it is precisely during these months that our people do not go to the beach when foreign tourists go. Our people go to the beach during the months foreign tourist do not go. Here everyone wants to go to the beach in July and August. Hotels will never reach their capacity in those 2 months alone.

We are planning to continue encouraging camping, especially in the north. Each year we are building one or two more.... [unidentified speaker interrupts; words indistinct]

With swimming pools, they have to be built with swimming pools because they have rocks. We will use the rocks for slides and stairs. [Words indistinct] is well informed abogut all that. [end recording]

Commentary on U.S. Presidential Elections

FL0711224088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1254 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Armando Morales commentary]

[Text] Just a few hours before the last phase of the U.S. electoral process, we have to deal with a subject which, although it repeats itself every 4 years, is not easily understood. I am referring to the final mechanism of the complex U.S. electoral apparatus through which the U.S. President is elected.

Next 8 November coincides with the day set by the U.S. Constitution for U.S. voters to go to the ballot boxes and voting machines placed at improvised polling stations throughout the 50 states of the Union. At this point of

the electoral process, U.S. voters already have the traditional alternatives— Republican and Democrat—which are the results of a long struggle taken to the level of a spectacle.

This battle to reach the Oval Office entered its second stage with the respective conventions in which each party elected its candidate. The show reached its climax in the televised debates between the two presidential candidates. Left behind were the primary elections, together with the caucuses, which are part of the first phase of this intricate process. They were put into practice for the first time in the middle of the last century and still rule the election of the person nominated for the U.S. Presidential candidacy. But we don't want to focus this commentary on the primaries, on the conventions, or much less on the spectacle of the recent televised debates held between George Bush and Michael Dukakis.

I want to call the attention of the television viewers on the final phase of the race for the White House; the popular vote proper. In it, all U.S. citizens of age and with the ability to exercise the right to vote will participate or should participate. To have an idea of the rules of the game of the U.S. elections I believe that we have to define two concepts; voters and electors.

I will begin by clarifying that voters are the Americans who are qualified to go to the ballot box to exercise their right to vote. It is estimated that they exceed 175 million this year, but because of a growing abstentionism which characterizes elections in the United States, the real number of voters is expected to be reduced by 50 percent.

Anyway, when each one of these U.S. citizens marks the ballot or pulls the lever at the voting machine, the vote will not directly weigh in favor of the candidate of his preference. According to the U.S. electoral law, when a candidate gets a relative majority of the votes in a state, even if it is half plus one, the votes of the electors or delegates of the state will count in his favor.

Here we have the other concept I wanted to clarify. What are electors? Each one of the 50 states of the union has a number of electors which correspond to the number of representatives and senators in Congress. These electors form part of the mechanism which truly elects the president of the United States and is called electoral college. Therefore, what happens on election day in the United States is the final struggle of the presidential candidates to win in those states which are crucial because of the number of electors since those are the votes which decide the triumph.

Look for yourselves at this improvised U.S. political map with only the nine states which will give the greatest number of electoral votes to the winning candidate in each one of them. We have California with 47; New York with 36; Texas with 29; the states of Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, which give between 20 and 25 electoral votes; and New Jersey with 16 votes.

Here I have a recent cable report datelined in Washington which notes the importance the presidential candidates give to these states. The report states: Presidential Candidates George Bush and Michael Dukakis are attempting to lure the hispanic vote and are struggling to improve their image in the four states in which 71 percent of this minority is concentrated. These states are, of course: California, Texas, New York, and Florida.

As a curious detail, I would like to mention that history has had several cases in which the majority of the popular votes registered nationally favored the losing candidate. The last one happened exactly a century ago. In 1888, Benjamin Harrison defeated Grover Cleveland even when Cleveland had almost 110,000 more votes than Harrison.

But let's go back to the subject of the electoral college. After the elections, as the ballots are counted in each state, the U.S. electoral map will begin to show who will the next resident of the White House be. In mid-December, the electors or delegates will meet in their respective states to cast the final vote for the president and his ticket partner. These results will be officially announced during the first week in January.

The popular dissatisfaction for this torturous electoral college and indirect voting system has been expressed in over 100 attempts to modify or abolish it. However, the electoral college method prevails in the United States.

I believe that the most characteristic feature of the presidential elections is the growing apathy of the U.S. people toward it. Suffice it to say that in 212 years of republican life, an adult majority has never been the one to exercise its right to vote. Since the end of the last century and during this one, various constitutional amendments gave the right to vote to blacks and women, abolished the individual tax for the right to vote, and lowered the minimum voting age to 18. Not even with these amendments has abstentionism been abolished. Abstentionism is made evident in the United States with each new election every 4 years and has a marked growing trend.

As an example, in the last 17 years, only 33.7 percent voted in 1972 when Richard Nixon was reelected; 27.2 percent elected James Carter in 1976; and only 26.2 percent placed Ronald Reagan in the White House in 1980. Finally, during the 1984 elections, which took Reagan to his second presidential term, of 174 million of Americans who could vote, 82 million simply did not vote. Therefore, in 1984 Reagan was reelected by only 26.7 percent of the total U.S. voters.

The U.S. presidential elections are preceded by much fanfare, a lot of color, and an unlimited propaganda barrage. At the same time, the candidates are involved in discrediting campaigns. All this at a cost, which this time is estimated to be $500 million.

It would be worth asking if such noise and high cost are somehow related to the apathy of the U.S. people over the presidential elections.

Raul Castro Receives Vietnamese Minister

FL0711164388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, Minister of the FAR has received Army General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam.

Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, first vice minister of the FAR and chief of the FAR General Staff, was also present at the meeting with the Vietnamese official. During the talks, the close and unbreakable ties which exist between the peoples of Cuba and Vietnam were expressed.

Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap is on an friendly visit to our country during which he has visited Santiago de Cuba, Holguin, the Isle of Youth, and various centers of scientific, technical, economic, and social interest.

Reactions to New Penal Code Cited

PA0711180688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0017 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Havana, 6 Nov (EFE)—It was reported today that the decision to decriminalize 82 offenses and release many common criminals from prison has caused some citizens to fear for their safety and think that there might be an increase in crime.

The new penal code, which is retroactive, eliminated the criminal status of some actions that have little social impact, reduced the criminal status of other actions, and increased the penalty for crimes such as bribery, abuse of authority by state officials, and improper use of financial and material resources.

Most of the 151 Cubans polled by the magazine MONCADA, mouthpiece of the Interior Ministry, believe the modifications to the new code will lead to an increase in crime.

According to the poll results published today, 84 people said they believe the crime rate has increased since 1 May when the new penal code was implemented, 50 believe it has not, and 15 said they do not know. [figures as received] Police officials, judges, and state attorneys were also polled.

An unidentified judge said the penalties for robbery with the use of force or violence "are lower now than they were before," and noted that criminal activities have increased. "All you have to do to confirm what I am saying, without having to analyze statistics, is to listen to your fellow workers and neighbors speak about crimes that they know have been committed."

The judge explained that with the broadening of municipal courts' authority, "Those responsible for preventing crime are in a better position to work on more serious cases, on those that seriously affect society." [passage omitted]

Mozambican President Recovers From Operation

PA0811022888 Paris AFP in Spanish 0150 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Havana, 7 Nov (AFP)— Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano was released from the hospital today and is convalescing in a protocol residence after having undergone a prostate operation, it was reported today to AFP by the Mozambican Embassy in Havana.

The Mozambican president, who arrived in Cuba on 27 October for a private visit, was operated on 3 days later to remove a benign tumor that was discovered during a general checkup, it was reported some days ago by GRANMA. President Chissano will return to Mozambique as soon as he is in a perfect state of health, the embassy stated, without venturing a probable date for the trip.

According to diplomatic sources, Chissano is accompanied by his wife, and a delegation which includes his security adviser.

This means the Mozambican president might avail himself to exchange views on the current state of the negotiations for a peaceful solution to the South African problem.

Chissano was welcomed by President Fidel Castro upon his arrival in Havana.

Haiti

Radio Nationale Reports Paul's Death

FL0711172288 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Retired Colonel Jean-Claude Paul died shortly after noon yesterday at his residence in Fermathe, after a heart attack—according to the doctor's first report.

We have also learned that the Haitian Armed Forces High Command has ordered an autopsy.

Col Paul, the former commander of the Dessalines Barracks' Tactical Battalion, was retired last October by General Prosper Avril's military government and replaced by Colonel Guy Francois. Col Paul was given a pension of 4,800 gourdes.

We remind listeners that for some time now, the U.S. Justice Department has been pointing the finger at Col Paul, whom it has accused of being involved in drug trafficking.

Poison Suspected

FL0711171188 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, the 50-year-old former commander of the Dessalines Barracks, died yesterday at 1500 at one of his residences in Fermathe shortly after having lunch. Sources close to his family said he died of a heart attack. We were unable to get his doctor to confirm this report. The doctor said it would be a violation of professional ethics to discuss the matter.

We point out that this version has not yet been confirmed by Col Paul's relatives. However, we have learned from a reliable source that Col Paul's brothers accuse Col Paul's wife, Mireille Delinois, of being an accomplice in his death. Col Paul was allegedly poisoned.

Mireille Delinois, whom the colonel married twice, is for the time being in police custody for protection. We have also learned that two persons in Col Paul's employ, a maid and a gardener, have been arrested by the Petion-Ville police. We remind listeners that Col Paul had been indicted for drug trafficking last March by a Miami, Florida court—notably, for having allowed his ranch to be used by drug traffickers to smuggle cocaine into the United States in 1985. [passage omitted]

The U.S. Administration had made the setting aside of Col Paul an important test for its relations with the new regime in Port-au-Prince. [passage omitted]

Police Chief Discusses Climate of Insecurity

FL0711182788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1930 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The (?Associations Brigade of Christians and Light of Haiti) from the Flock of Jesus Evangelical Church informs the public and the pertinent authorities of a serious incident that occurred on 2 November. There was a night ceremony, and while the church's pastor, Reverend Louis Max Antoine, was ending the ceremony, denouncing the corruption and wickedness that exists in Haiti and which is preventing Haiti from being saved, there was a loud noise. A bullet entered the church and struck 20-year-old (Venante Lapaix) in the right thigh.

The churchgoers were unable to discover who was responsible for this act—whether it was the macoutes or the military. However, shortly afterwards, someone began throwing rocks at the church.

In view of this, the Flock of Jesus Evangelical Church asks the pertinent authorities to do their jobs, especially with regard to disarming the macoutes.

Regarding the climate of fear that is returning to Port-au-Prince, the chief of police, Colonel Georges Valcin, has said that the police are making efforts to control it, but they lack the means. He announced that several people impersonating soldiers have already been arrested. The colonel thinks that calm is beginning to return. Let's listen to his statements.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What can you tell us about the problem of unrest in Haiti?

[Valcin] Well, we are aware of it. It is a problem that already existed. Even though there is unrest, I think that families are beginning to feel a bit more at ease.

[Reporter] But bodies are found in the streets almost every day, and there is a great deal of weapons shooting.

[Valcin] Well, OK, we are aware of the problem. We are going to take measures to prevent these things. Remember, I have only been with the police for 1 month. The legacy is rather heavy. We don't have the means to do our work. As you know, there can't be police work without the means.

[Second Reporter] (?Have you been able to) check to see if it is the military who are shooting like that at night, or some other sector?

[Valcin] They have checked. I think they have arrested many people in these cases; and people impersonating soldiers have already from time to time been presented to the press.

[Second Reporter] When are these people going to be taken to court, or shown to the press?

[Valcin] Well, [words indistinct] a bit late, because they have shown them to the television stations—from time to time. Radio stations have come. They have been seen. The press has seen them.

[Second Reporter] What emergency measures will the Port-au-Prince police take to counter these criminal acts that occur almost daily in Port-au-Prince?

[Valcin] Well, there are measures that should be taken normally—general surveillance, by patrols. Since our means are limited, we have called on other units which help us patrol. There are patrols. However, there are sensitive, vulnerable points, which have always escaped police control, given their (?locations), and their distance from military posts. Now we are going to concentrate on these sensitive points, so that we can solve the problem.

[Second Reporter] There are many armed individuals that the police know about. (?Have) all these people (?been) disarmed during the search operations going on?

[Valcin] This is a question I feel you don't even need to ask, since you can see what happened the other day. The police went to search a guy who resisted; and you saw what

happened. I mean, if we go directly to someone's house, it is because we already have indications—it means that we already know where to go. We know who should be searched. [end recording]

Port-au-Prince Lawyers Begin Work Stoppage

FL0711173688 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince lawyers are beginning a 4-day work stoppage this morning to protest the acts of aggression, the forceful entering of law offices, and threats of death and murder to which they are being subjected. The lawyers have decided to suspend all court and tribunal actions in this jurisdiction. They will not argue cases or execute any court decision from this morning to 9 November [date as heard].

The lawyers also intend to contact the authorities in order to end the intolerable violations of which they are the victims. [passage omitted]

[Begin Pierre Labissiere, president of the barristers, recording] [passage omitted] Certain lawyers have stated that they have received death threats from certain people. Others say they have been attacked in their offices. Others affirmed that their offices had been broken into, and so forth. Also, as you well know, colleagues have died under rather sad circumstances.

This situation has, of course, alarmed us, and at this morning's meeting, we decided first to stop all professional activities for 3 days [as heard]. Next, we decided to ask the authorities to give us a little security—because we feel that the legal profession cannot be exercised if the lawyers in charge of defending people do not have security. [passage omitted]

The authorities will either give us the protection to which we are entitled or they will reject us—and if this happens, the lawyers will have to make some kind of a decision, which I cannot at this time speculate on. [end recording]

Acierie d'Haiti Workers Begin 2-Day Strike

FL0711175088 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] The workers of Acierie d'Haiti [a privately-owned company] have announced that they are going on a 48-hour warning strike as of this morning, following the breakdown of negotiations between the company's administration and the members of the union.

The workers are demanding that Mr (Eddy Lefevre) leave the company. They are also asking for a 50-percent wage increase and that an employee named (Duperois Jean) be fired from the plant. They accuse (Dupervois Jean) of participating in last 11 September's massacre at St. Jean Bosco Church which left 11 dead and more than 70 wounded.

Finally, Acierie d'Haiti's workers are demanding the removal of the soldiers who have been posted at the entrance to the factory for some time now.

We remind listeners that the plant's workers had already effected a work stoppage last week to protest this military presence at the Acierie d'Haiti plant in Port-au-Prince.

Costa Rica

Authorities Arrest Members of Drug Ring

PA0811040788 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Summary] Members of the Judicial Investigation Organization's drug section have reported that several members of a drug ring have been arrested for smuggling 10 kg of cocaine into Limon in a launch over the past weekend.

Arrested so far are a Colombian named Duarte; a Spaniard named Arias; five Costa Ricans named Marin, Wilson, Velasquez, Sanchez, Arce; and a guard identified as Stanley Garron Figula.

The police noted that Limon has become one of the main ports of entry for drugs being smuggled into the country.

Government Appoints Ambassador to Austria

PA0711143688 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0340 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Summary] San Jose, 4 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Costa Rican Government today appointed Manuel Constenla Umana as its ambassador to Austria after the mission had been represented by a charge d'affaires for many years. According to Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto, the appointment of an ambassador responds to the increasing interest the Austrian Government has shown towards Central American affairs.

El Salvador

Democratic Convergence Leader Reports on Tour

PA0811121588 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Report by Antonio Minero on statement made by Guillermo Ungo, president of the Democratic Convergence; date and place not given]

[Text] This morning, the Democratic Convergence reported the results of its Central American tour and said Presidents Cerezo, Arias, and Ortega had offered support for its participation in the coming presidential elections, which were described by the presidents as a sign of progress under Esquipulas II.

[Begin Ungo recording] President Cerezo said he supported our participation in the electoral process. An official communique from the Guatemalan Presidency stated this contributed to the progress and efforts of Esquipulas II, even though we have not signed it and have no commitments under it. President Cerezo was also interested in holding a Central American summit in San Salvador in November. On Friday, the secretaries general of the Democratic Convergence; Dr Ruben Zamora, secretary general of the MPSC [Social Christian People's Movement]; and I, the presidential candidate, visited San Jose, Costa Rica. There we met with President Oscar Arias, Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto, and Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Rivera Bianchini [end recording].

During the news conference, the Democratic Convergence leaders said that on Monday they will declare their position on ARENA's [National Republican Alliance] electoral reform bill. They said the Tuesday deadline allowed too little time to present observations and comments on the electoral code reforms.

Venceremos on FMLN Actions; Army Casualties

PA0811040188 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Preliminary reports provide information concerning the most recent and most important actions conducted within the framework of our "Death to Reagan's Policy, Yankee Get Out of El Salvador" national operation. Within a national maneuver of simultaneous actions in the central Modesto Ramirez Front and the northeastern Francisco Sanchez Front, our units conducted the following actions:

At 0030 on 7 November, FMLN guerrilla units and insurrectional militias attacked posts of the peripheral defense of the 5 November Hydroelectric Plant with rifle fire and peoples artillery.

Our units also attacked enemy positions near the 5 November Hydroelectric Plant. The enemy responded with artillery fire, including 105-mm howitzers, and machinegun fire from an AC-47 gunship.

In addition, at 0230 on Friday, 7 November [as heard], FMLN forces attacked the Nueva Concepcion Treasury Police garrison in Chalatenango Department. The attack was carried out with rifle fire and peoples artillery, and the target was the garrison's dormitories. Our units inflicted a total of 10 casualties.

Guatemala

Government Denies Agreement Over Belize

PA0711223188 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 6 Nov 88 p 3

[Text] Julio Santos, personal spokesman of Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, has said Guatemala has not signed any agreement with Great Britain concerning the territory of Belize, and that it is not negotiating the issue behind the Guatemalan people's backs.

Reporters asked Santos why the government does not inform the Guatemalan people about the negotiations being conducted in various places.

Santos said the reason is that the negotiations are being conducted very slowly. He stressed no agreement has yet been signed.

Santos added that only negotiations are under way. He said there is a commission that periodically meets and talks with Belizean representatives and British observers.

Santos said three commissions are currently working, including the political, economic, and security commissions.

The presidential spokesman added that Guatemalan political groups, other groups, and the Guatemalan people, who have criticized the negotiations, can be sure the Guatemalan Government will never make a decision without first informing the Guatemalan people about any possible agreement with Belize and that the government will submit any agreement for due consultation.

Finally, Santos said the Guatemalan Government maintains its reservations concerning Belize in accordance with what is established by the Constitution.

Cabrera: Cuba 'Supplying Weapons' to Guerrillas

PA0811033188 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 5 Nov 88 p 6

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Alfonso Cabrera appealed yesterday to Cuban President Fidel Castro to stop supplying weapons to Guatemalan guerrillas.

The foreign minister said that, according to guerrillas who have accepted amnesty, Cuba not only trains the guerrillas, but also supplies them with weapons.

Cabrera said it will be very difficult to achieve peace in Guatemala and in Central America, as long as this continues. According to Cabrera, countries such as Cuba must stop providing the guerrillas with weapons if peace is to be attained. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

Daniel, Humberto Ortega on U.S. Elections

PA0811142088 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1218 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has said that whoever wins the U.S. presidential elections, be it Bush or Dukakis, must seek an understanding with Nicaragua because he must realize that the counterrevolutionary plan definitely has been defeated. The president made this statement to Radio Sandino following yesterday's promotion ceremony for EPS members who risked their lives to help our people during Hurricane Joan.

[Begin recording] [D. Ortega] The next U.S. president must end the war against Nicaragua and normalize relations with Nicaragua. He should not risk a failure like the one suffered by Reagan's policy.

[Reporter] What if Dukakis wins?

[D. Ortega] Mr Dukakis has committed himself to denying assistance to the contras, so we expect he will maintain that position.

[Reporter] The contras are almost defeated. Do you think there will be support for them?

[D. Ortega] Whoever wins, be it Bush or Dukakis, must realize that the contras have been defeated. He should be pragmatic and seek an understanding with Nicaragua while respecting the Nicaraguan people. [Words indistinct] in any case crimes against security.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[D. Ortega] He has good intentions. He has said that. We hope he is able to fulfill what he said. [end recording]

At the same ceremony, journalists interviewed Defense Minister Army General Humberto Ortega Saavedra.

[Begin recording] [H. Ortega] The promotions have come at a time when Reagan refuses to accept once and for all that his mercenary policy has failed, that the mercenary plan has failed, and that he should start negotiating with the Nicaraguan Government. The development, consolidation, and strengthening of the Army has coincided with the continuation of the U.S. Government's warmongering policy. We do not want to use these promotions to achieve political goals, but the defeat of the U.S. policy has coincided with the strengthening and consolidation of the revolution and, therefore, of the EPS.

[Reporter] What do you as defense minister expect from Bush or Dukakis?

[H. Ortega] We hope they accept something that is obvious to everyone: the defeat of the warmongering policy. We hope the next U.S. president will negotiate in a civilized fashion with the Nicaraguan Government. We hope to achieve a dignified peace for Nicaragua. The political situation favors justice; in this case, the Nicaraguan Government. The contras have many internal differences following the failure of their policy and of their unjust positions. These differences have made clear the moral values of most of the contra leaders. They do not care about the people. They are interested only in enjoying the benefits the war has given them.

[Reporter] How do you view the Reagan administration, after 8 years of a Republican Party administration in the United States?

[H. Ortega] It has brought death and destruction. It has been worse than Hurricane Joan.

[Reporter] It has been said the cease-fire will be continued for another 8 months.

[H. Ortega] To promote the negotiations, we are going to continue doing everything possible to continue the cease-fire for as long as it is necessary.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[H. Ortega] This is our position right now, today.

[Reporter] There is fear about what could happen between Nicaragua and Honduras. Could the situation become more serious?

[H. Ortega] As long as there is no negotiated solution with the United States, there is always the danger of providing the contras with a Honduran - Nicaraguan conflict. This is a real problem. We have urged the Honduran Government and Army not to let imperialism manipulate them, because the Honduran people would be the only losers. [end recording]

Ortega Meets With DPRK's Kim Tal-hyon

SK0711101688 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT7 Nov 88

[Text] Pyongyang November 7 (KCNA)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra said he supported the efforts being made by the Korean people for socialist construction and national reunification under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The Nicaraguan president said the position of the fraternal Korean people concerning the Olympic Games was right, when he met with a DPRK Government delegation led by Kim Tal-hyon, chairman of the external economy commission and minister of foreign trade, in November!

Nicaragua will always firmly stand on the side of the Korean people and do its utmost to further develop the good friendly relations between the two countries, declared the president.

Signs Aid Protocol

PA0811030188 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 5 Nov 88 p 4

[Summary] Within the framework of the fifth session of the Korean - Nicaraguan mixed commission, the DPRK Government has approved a $3-million aid package for Nicaragua. The cooperation will become effective as of next year.

The protocol was signed by Kim Tal-hyon, president of the DPRK Committee for Economic Affairs, and Nicaraguan Foreign Cooperation Minister Henry Ruiz.

The protocol includes the donation of 684 metric tons of steel.

Vice President Ramirez Arrives in Spain

LD0411235688 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Hector Arenas report from Madrid's Barajas Airport]

[Excerpts] Tonight saw the arrival in Madrid of Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez, who is here to ask for Spanish aid for the reconstruction of the regions and installations hit by Hurricane Joan. According to the Sandinist representative, the hurricane left in its wake 160,000 victims, not to mention the as yet uncalculated damage. The Nicaraguan vice president who is concluding his tour in Madrid in search of aid, said that more than 1,000 homes had been destroyed, hundreds of kilometers of power lines cut, nearly 600 km of road destroyed, 1,000 square kilometers of forest laid waste, banana and coffee plantations damaged, and numerous livestock drowned. Sergio Ramirez said that, apart from what the government may be able to offer, he will be asking Spain for long-term loans for the reconstruction of the fishing industry and schools. [passage omitted]

Sergio Ramirez, who did not go into detail on the accusation by the Nicaraguan opposition and contras to the effect that the Managua government has handled the country's economy badly, addressed a message to the man who will be the new U.S. president, calling for dialogue and peaceful understanding, an end to the war, and an end to support for the counterrevolution.

EPS Captures Contra Caches, Couriers

PA0711200188 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] As part of its Ernesto Che Guevara operation, the Modesto Duarte Rapid Hunter Battalion has captured two contra weapon caches and several couriers who operated in Boaco Department.

Among other supplies, the caches contained the following weapons: 5 AK-47 rifles, 2 M-79 grenade launchers with 19 grenades, 5 M-60 grenades, 2 M-60 machineguns and 20 57-mm projectiles [as heard].

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] We have this area controlled in such a way that we have been able to capture all these weapons as well as the contra couriers. The courier's mission in the area is to attack small EPS units, cooperatives, [word indistinct], and steal from them. [end recording]

The caches were located 25 km from (Ura) in Boaco Department. During the operation, eight contra couriers who operated in seven Boaco regions were captured. [words indistinct] According to the captured couriers, the contras have more caches in that area. The soldiers who participated in this operation were visited by their families over the weekend.

Greek Union, EEC Help Build 10 Houses

PA0411224188 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Report by Adolfo Navarrete from Matagalpa]

[Text] To show solidarity with Nicaragua, union leaders from Greece are [word indistinct] the construction of 10 houses at the Nuevo Amanecer farm cooperative in Aranjuez, (?15) km north of Matagalpa, for the benefit of an equal number of families.

(Betty Lamakis), coordinator of the brigade of union members from Greece, said the cost of these houses is close to 40 million cordobas and that they are being jointly financed by the Union of Greek Workers [as heard], Greek mass organizations, and the EEC.

Radio Corporacion Appeals Closing of Newscast

PA0411204388 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] Strangely, the Interior Ministry's media directorate has refused to hear the appeal filed by our Director Jose Castillo Osejo against the closing of our "Six O'Clock Sharp" newscast [Noticiero Seis en Punto]. Castillo Osejo said that when he went to the Interior Ministry he was told the appeal would not be heard on the orders of Lisette Torres, the Interior Ministry media director. The "Six O'Clock Sharp" newscast has been suspended indefinitely.

Here is the text of the appeal: I, Jose Castillo Osejo, director of the "Six O'Clock Sharp" newscast, property of Radio Corporacion, of which I am the legal representative, duly accredited in this ministry, state the following: Yesterday morning I was notified of the media directorate's resolution of 1000 on 1 November 1988, which suspended the "Six O'Clock Sharp" newscast indefinitely.

Not pleased with such a resolution and according to Article 46 of the general law on communications media, which was reformed and published in Decree No 708, Official Gazette No 92 of 1981, I am appealing formally to request the reversal of the previous resolution. I request it be accepted so that we may meet with the relevant authorities as required by the administrative legal action in Article 2 of the general law on communications media.

I ask for photocopies of all documents that have been filed and I request to be informed of the deadlines and authorities we must appeal to by law.

I am submitting two copies of this document and request my appeal be heard by a competent official and my demands met.

I appoint Radio Corporacion, well-known by this office, to receive the notifications. [Dated] Managua, 3 November 1988 [Signed] Dr Edmundo Castillo R

Schedules Additional Newscast

PA0411194288 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] We report to all our listeners that the "11 O'clock Sharp" newscast, will be broadcast again on Monday 7 November, beginning at 1100.

French Works Damage TELCOR Circuits

PA0711225188 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1810 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] The installation of a new French communications plant, the NT-20, undoubtedly a very modern plant, has caused the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services [TELCOR] some circuit problems. It forced line 116, which is used for international calls, out of service.

However, not all international calls have been affected. Line 114, which is used for calls to Mexico, Central America, and Panama, was not affected. Line 116, which serves the United States and the rest of the world, is out of service. We are virtually isolated from the United States and the rest of the world in that we cannot call those countries.

This is a temporary problem because, according to technician Roberto Salgado, they expect to begin easing this isolation from the rest of the world in about 48 hours. TELCOR believes this problem can be fully overcome by 12 November.

A large number of French technicians and advisers are working ardously to overcome this problem, Salgado added.

Petronic Announces New Fuel Prices for 3 Nov

PA0411165488 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Petronic [Nicaraguan Petroleum Enterprise] last night announced new prices for gasoline and butane gas. The new prices will go into effect on Thursday, 3 November. Here are the new prices: airplane fuel costs 1,400 cordobas a gallon; gasoline for motor vehicles, 1,150 cordobas a gallon; diesel, 825 cordobas a gallon; kerosene, 750 cordobas a gallon; a 10-pound butane gas cylinder costs 600 cordobas; a 25-pound cylinder, 1,500 cordobas; and a 100-pound cylinder, 6,000 cordobas. [passage omitted]

1 Killed, 2 Wounded in 'Mercenary' Attack

PA0511193188 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Report by Auxiliadora Martinez]

[Excerpts] A mercenary group ambushed a civilian vehicle on Thursday night in [name indistinct], located 10 km from Juigalpa. One person was killed and two others were wounded in the attack on the vehicle, which was on

its way from Managua to Juigalpa. This cowardly and criminal ambush took place at 2220 near the 127-km marker on the road to Managua. The counterrevolutionaries opened rifle fire on the Jeep with license plate No O10-0118, owned by private farmer Abelino Martinez, brother of Rafael Martinez, FAGANIC [Federation of Nicaraguan Cattlemen's Associations] president. Those traveling in the vehicle were: Ernestina de Martinez and her two small sons; Jose Eli Urbina, who was killed; Abelino Martinez; and Ildefonso Miranda, the driver, who was wounded in the left knee. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, EPS troops have been pursuing the mercenary group responsible for this attack since yesterday morning.

Panama

Solis Palma Addresses Political Parties

PA0711212988 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1622 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Speech by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, at ceremony to deliver the Electoral Registry to political parties at the Portobelo Room of Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Excerpts] Good morning, Honorable Legislator Celso Carrizo, president of the Legislative Assembly; Magistrate Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez, president of the Electoral Tribunal; Electoral Tribunal magistrates; ministers and deputy ministers of state; honorable legislators; comptroller general of the republic; governor of Panama Province; honorable mayors of Panama City and San Miguelito; [8-second break in reception] and presidential advisers; representatives of political parties [5-second break in reception] Revolutionary Panamenist Party, Liberal Party, Democratic Revolutionary Party, Labor Party, Republican Party, National Action Party, Democratic Party of the Workers, People's Party, and Authentic Liberal Party; distinguished members of the Electoral Tribunal; special guets; national and foreign journalists; ladies and gentlemen:

I believe with absolute sincerity this is one of the most momentous ceremonies in our nation's democratic development, in our democratic progress. I fully agree with what my friend Ruben Souza has said. The future of the Panamanian nation is at stake. These elections are a great opportunity to seek harmony among authentic Panamanians. When I mention authentic Panamanians, I do so because we do not have to seek harmony with Panamanians who do not love their country, and we never find it. [applause] They are the result of actions that contradict the roots of Panamanian nationality.

This, however, is a great opportunity for authentic Panamanians. Those who mistakenly—or because of the permanent disinformation we have been confronting inside and outside our national territory—have adopted wrong positions or do not agree with the current government's stance or style of government now have the opportunity to struggle for a government that, according to their ideas, is more consonant with the interests of the Panamanian nation.

Nevertheless, it is only within the framework of the interests of the Panamanian nation that we can talk about a political debate, a national unity, and a new outlook for the Republic of Panama.

My friend Ruben Souza said we need a government of national tranformation. I can assure him the process of a government of national transformation began on 26 February 1988. [applause] We need a government that will continue that process of transformation, which means retaking the revolutionary process he so wisely referred to. It was necessary to retake the path of national liberation, the path of dedicating ourselves to our homeland: Panama.

It has not been easy. We still have differences, even with our friends, even with those who want the best for the country. Some feel we have not worked as expeditiously as the moment demands, while others believe we are going to fast. However, I can assure you the entire government team is working with love for our homeland, with a clear and defined notion that we must defend the interests of the downtrodden groups in our country. [passage omitted]

We speak of the crisis. Who is faced with the crisis? Who is really suffering because of the crisis? The Panamanian people, the peasants, the poor, and many other groups that have experienced a permanent crisis are suffering. For them the crisis is not new. The ones who are suffering a new crisis are the ones who enjoyed the Panamanian state and the nation's wealth. [applause].

For them this is a new economic crisis. For all Panamanians, however—authentic Panamanians, I repeat—there is also a crisis the country had never before confronted: Panamanians who have betrayed the nation's dignity, right to self-determination, and autonomy. This is a new crisis, and we must work and struggle against this crisis.

The 7 May 1989 elections are a challenge for the political parties that believe in authentic change, in the guidance the historical moment demands. They are faced with the challenge of electing the best men in each party, those who are willing to sacrifice themselves to public office for Panama's welfare. There cannot be—without betraying part of Panama's history—nominees for president or vice president, legislator or representative, who cannot truly guarantee a continuation of the revolutionary struggle initiated in 1968. [applause]

Candidates should not be selected because of their economic background or because they control the media. Such factors should not influence the selection of candidates. Ladies and gentlemen, let us not put ourselves in the sad situation of that great—but poorly divided—northern

country. Sixty percent of the current U.S. electorate says neither candidate represents anything, because neither of them mean anything to the welfare of the United States. Let us not put ourselves in this sad position. The Panamanian electorate should be able to say: The problem is who to elect, because there are so many capable candidates, we do not know who to go with. The problem should be the selection of the best and not indifference, because what is about to come is the same or worse than what the country has at any given time in its history.

We are expecting one of our largest voter turnouts, which is natural. We expect an electorate of 1.2 million Panamanians, of whom 1,144,358 had already been registered by 30 September. Never before in the country's electoral history had such a high percentage of voters been registered 6 months prior to the elections. This is a job the Electoral Tribunal magistrates and all its officials should be congratulated for, because it expresses an effort and will that go beyond all the adversities that have emerged. I congratulate them.

However, we must alert the parties that there are 4,068 polling places, which means each party must have at least 16,000 activists to serve those places. This requires a huge organizational effort. It is an expensive effort. Such a mobilization requires a huge organization and significant financial resources. These obstacles must not defeat the parties supporting the revolutionary process or those that believe in the continued existence of a free, sovereign, and independent nation. This situation must not represent an advantage for those who can receive money from abroad to impose governments contrary to the interests of the country and who have access to many resources to run in elections with the future of Panama at stake. For this reason, Electoral Tribunal members, Mr Legislative Assembly President, honorable legislators, measures must be adopted so that corrupting money from abroad is not used to change the path of the Panamanian nation. Ruben Souza spoke about the need for a national reaffirmation action. We agree with that. However, I do not believe the solution is one single national reaffirmation action. We must have national reaffirmation actions all the time, 24 hours a day, during each month remaining before the elections, and afterwards. Each of our activities must be a national reaffirmation action. It should not be just a formal meeting or a formal rally. This meeting or this rally could be the culmination of many national reaffirmation actions. The 7 May elections must be a national reaffirmation action.

Let party platforms and our commitments with the fatherland be the grounds on which Panamanian voters choose. Let the voters not be guided by passion or disinformation. Do not let a resourceful media fool the patriotic Panamanian people into making an error that could be almost irreparable. The people will elect a government for 5 years. Its term will conclude in 1994, only 6 years before the day the canal will be received and before the 21st century, when we must have a nation making progress with scientific, technological, and cultural improvements. Those will be 5 years of challenges and work so we may be able to give the country the tools it requires to face today's world, to be independent, to be united, and to have relations with all the countries of the world, without exception. This is a moment for a change of mentality. It will be 5 years, perhaps the most important 5 years in the nation's history.

I am addressing the Democratic National Union parties, the People's Party, the National Action Party—in other words, the parties that are here rather than those that have formally explained their absence, saying they do not want to see the president of the republic, who is the president, whether they like it or not; [applause] they do not want to see Yolanda Pulice, I cannot understand why, they have very poor taste; and they do not want to see the state ministers. These absent parties place these petty positions, these shortsighted positions, ahead of the interests of the fatherland. They would not have lost anything by being present. On the contrary, they would have made progress because they would have demonstrated they want elections rather than reaching power by overthrowing a government through violence. They should have been here. This should make us see they are absent when what is being discussed is in the fatherland's interest—just as the civic clubs were absent when we had the national catastrophe. Where were the builders of national values at that time?

Honesty is a national value. Let us see what they mean by that: You have national values if you respect your employer, become a slave, or are in charge of aristocratic clubs. However, there is no national value involved in assisting the people of Tonosi, Sona, Puerto Armuelles, and other places. That is because these national values have a very specific meaning; they have a trademark: Made in the USA. This is what is at stake in these elections.

I again congratulate the Electoral Tribunal for its efforts. I congratulate the political parties that have risen to the occasion.

I again urge you to work for power as a tool for national improvement and as the basis for respect, self-determination, and liberty.

Thank you. [applause]

Arias Calderon Comments

PA0811041988 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2344 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Christian Democratic Party President Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon explains why opposition parties did not participate in the electoral process ceremony that began today:

[Begin recording] [Arias Calderon] When a man strikes another man who is bound and unable to defend himself, it is because he is frightened and because he is a coward.

I think the government is acting in a cowardly manner, because it wants to have elections by tying up the opposition. The government does not recognize the right to freedom of expression; it has not reopened the closed media; it has not released prisoners; it is not allowing those in exile to return; it does not allow the right to hold peaceful demonstrations. In other words, it wants an opposition that is tied up. It is afraid of us, and it is showing cowardice.

[Reporter] Doctor, in view of the situation you have described, will political opposition parties nominate any candidates?

[Arias Calderon] As you are aware, none of the political opposition parties attended today's ceremony, thus showing again our position: The elections are not a solution to the crisis, unless the elections actually take place under suitable conditions of freedom of expression, freedom to hold demonstrations, and the right to be released when one is arrested arbitrarily. Unless we have full freedom, the elections are simply another battle that will further discord and confrontations in our country. [end recording]

Editorial Urges Support for Upcoming Election

PA0711232788 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Nov 88 p A-4

[Editorial: "The Initiation of the Nomination Process"]

[Text] Today, amid great uncertainty, the Electoral Tribunal begins the nomination process for the 7 May 1989 election. All the steps legally established in the electoral calendar have been taken. The country now has 6 months to prepare for the important and fundamental consultation of the people who will elect a new president, two vice presidents, the honorable legislators, and the corregimiento representatives.

There are strong and justifiable doubts whether the elections will actually take place next year. The serious political and economic crisis that has affected the country for the past year and the apathy into which it has fallen are now the main reasons for doubting that the elections will take place. Statements made by both government and opposition have made the electoral process even more uncertain. All kinds of suggestions are being made on how to ensure that the May 1989 election takes place. It is worrisome, however, that with only 6 months to go the various elements in the contest have not clearly stated their support for the election.

The nomination process is under way and neither the government nor the opposition parties have even begun to discuss their presidential or vice presidential candidates. As for the legislature, apart from some would-be candidates and inconsequential aspirants, we have observed nothing to confirm that the election process is indeed under way. At no time in the history of the republic has there been such delay and lack of political enthusiasm.

Apart from this, the required number of Electoral Tribunal members have not been appointed and the tribunal has not been given the necessary funds to hold a clean and honest election. The reason for this situation, obviously, is the country's prevailing economic crisis caused by internal political problems and the U.S. Government's insolent aggression against Panama. Panamanians, who are all well-informed on the subject, are completely aware that in the present economic situation it is impossible to hold an election that could end the Panamanian crisis.

With only 6 months until the election, we have no time left for speculations that only extend the present political uncertainty and anxiety. It is necessary to define our position on the electoral process. The government and opposition must define theirs. We recall that the opposition has been insisting that total freedom does not exist and that total freedom is essential for such an important event. The government parties—although more active in the pursuit of the popular vote—are being hesitant and calculating.

We insist that the May 1989 election offers the only possible democratic solution to the political and economic crisis that is ruining the country. We must also repeat that to arrive at such a solution, there must be total liberty and fair conditions for all parties. However, we believe a decision about the election must be made, because we only have 6 months left. The country cannot continue in the present state of uncertainty and anxiety about whether or not there will be an election.

U.S. Planes Continue Airspace Violations

PA0811000088 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Reports given to TV-2 reveal that the U.S. Air Force stationed in Panama continues to overfly the airspace throughout our territory in violation of aeronautics rules and the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

The most recent reports state that on 4 November two U.S. UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters overflew areas under the responsibility of the Paz Battalion in the Chiriqui Province areas of Cerro Punta, Volcan, Rio Sereno, and Caisan and then headed toward Bocas del Toro Province.

This is another incident we must describe as incredible: It now turns out that the Panamanian Air Force [FAP] is violating Panamanian airspace, according to the U.S. Southern Command. Information supplied by General Mark Cisneros, of the illegal Southern Command, claims that the FAP violated and carried out dangerous overflights in the sovereign airspace of the Republic of Panama. This again confirms the marked colonialistic inclination of this Mexican gringo, Gen Mark Cisneros, the brains behind all psychological actions against the Republic of Panama.

Paper Criticizes Hurricane Relief Crusade

PA0811030388 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 7 Nov 88 p 4

[Unattributed "At the Moment" column: "The Kruzados (derogatory term for Civic Crusade members) Are Idle"]

[Text] The sad and moving spectacle of the great harm caused to people in some parts of the country by the hurricane has evoked two different responses. They can be seen clearly through the activities of the people involved. One is characterized by the inhuman indifference of some to the pain, anguish, tragedy and loss suffered by the victims of the fateful hurricane "Joan." The other, characterized by action and by those who have carried it out, has been present from the beginning and the benefit of its presence has been felt. In order to show clearly who acted in which way, we must describe each group in detail and indicate how to identify each one now and in the future.

Until now, the self-styled "Civic Crusade"—which according to the "Christian Democratic Party" [PDC] leader acts under the political guidelines of the Nazi-green star [a green star is the symbol of the PDC]—has been indifferent, even hostile.

To say it has offended the Panamanian people's pain is an understatement. It has become evident that through propaganda and malicious disinformation, its lobbyists in Washington have told numerous international aid organizations that any relief sent for the hurricane victims would go to the treasury, helping a government striken by a natural condition called dignity.

However, they have overlooked the fact that with their antidemocratic, anti-Christian, and inhuman attitude, the kruzados and those who follow the green Dracula [referring to PDC leader Ricardo Arias Calderon] have increased the spiritual strength of our people who have found within themselves and in their real friends the means to provide for the most urgent needs of the hurricane victims.

For example, we need only mention the intensive, effective and timely relief work carried out by the National Lottery for Beneficence. Honoring its name, it is distributing clothing, food, and money to the organizations appointed by the government to distribute those resources to the most needy areas and people.

This great popular institution's attitude contrasts with that of the kruzados and other occasional and opportunistic organizations that surface once or twice a year to collect funds and then disappear for the rest of the year. They suspiciously hide at times like this, when real Panamanians—not those who are Panamanians only because they were born here—acting from deep and sincere motives, as quickly as blood comes to the wound, come generously and efficiently to alleviate the pain of the people. Meanwhile, the kruzados writhe in anger and impotence in the darkness of their consciences. But the kruzados sat back and did nothing in vain. Their frustrated hope was that by doing nothing they would hasten the death of the people, who now amid pain find new reasons and renewed resources to strive for a better life because they know they will attain that life in peace, sovereignty, and with dignity.

Cooperation Agreement With Peru Signed

PA0811040088 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 7 Nov 88 p 3

[Summary] Rafael Paniza, director of the Panamanian Planning and Economic Policy Ministry's international technical cooperation office, has reported that the Panamanian and Peruvian Governments recently signed an international technical cooperation agreement through which Panama will develop the fields of planning, foreign relations, fruit-growing techniques, and fishing.

The agreement includes 13 important points and will enter into effect in 1989. It has the support of the UN Program for Development and other international organizations.

Supreme Court Declares Conte Arrest Legal

PA0711161788 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 3 Nov 88 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Supreme Court yesterday declared that Alberto Conte's preventive custody was legal, "notwithstanding that as the preliminary investigation progresses, the evidence currently in the court records against him may be weakened."

In accordance with the Supreme Court decision, Alberto Conte Magdaleno will be returned to the custody of the assistant attorney general.

The explanation of Conte's arrest points out that the assistant attorney general issued a decree ordering a search of Conte's public relations firm—"Abeconte"—and that several subversive documents aimed at undermining the state's internal security were found.

Conte was informed that he is charged with crimes against the state's institutions and that he has a right to be assisted by an attorney, to which he answered "I will be pleased to accept the offer of legal advice, and as soon as my attorney Rogelio Cruz is present I will make a statement."

Upon declaring Conte's arrest legal, the Supreme Court added that the assistant attorney general has issued a document that explains the reasons for the arrest, the evidence gathered in the search, and the charges against Conte.

It has been pointed out that an unsworn statement exists, which was made without a lawyer present because that is what the lawyer [not further identified] wanted.

Conte's attorney, meanwhile, argues that Conte is being held incommunicado at the Carcel Modelo, while court records include photographs of Conte being visited by his wife and receiving food from relatives who visit him.

IRHE Workers Demand Release of Union Members
PA0711192688 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1607 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Panama City, 7 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Leaders of the Hydraulic Resources and Electrification Institute [IRHE] union today demanded the release of three union members who the leaders said were held "hostage" to force Isaac Rodriguez, the union's secretary general, to seek asylum in Spain last week.

At a news conference, union leader Rolando Gomez said as soon as the government succeeded in forcing Rodriguez out of the country, it should have released the detainees and "sat down to negotiate" and settle the conflict that has existed with IRHE for the past 4 years.

Gomez said the IRHE labor union will continue its struggle despite the hard blow represented by the departure of Rodriguez, 30, who is regarded as the most pugnacious of the Panamanian labor leaders opposing the government.

Four years ago, Rodriguez reported that Jose Blandon, former advisor to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, whom Blandon now opposes—and because of this has been in political exile in the United States for the past 10 months—used IRHE funds to finance the campaign of Nicolas Ardito Barletta, who was elected president in 1984. The IRHE union and the government have been in continuous conflict ever since.

Gomez today said the Panama Defense Forces held hostage three labor leaders who were detained on 19 September to "pressure Rodriguez into leaving the country." Gomez also said the government "should have released them once Rodriguez was forced out."

The government has charged the IRHE employees with "sabotaging" the energy system, but Gomez has asserted that "the administration is the true saboteur."

Argentina

Caputo Chides Menem on Falklands Negotiations

PY0711231088 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1735 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Nov (NA)—Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today said it is hard for him to believe that Peronist presidential candidate Carlos Menem can change his position on the Malvinas Islands by "180 degrees" and use "the British arguments" that hold that "negotiations come first and sovereignty later."

Caputo said "there will be many surprises" if Menem wins the election next year, because "his speeches are full of contradictions."

"What worries and concerns me most is that he wants to build popular hopes by continuously issuing contradictory statements," Caputo said.

Caputo told Radio Splendid reporters that he will agree to be included on a list of national deputies in the upcoming UCR internal elections. Caputo said he respects Menem "a lot" and is not concerned "about Menem's long sideburns. On the contrary, I like them. I am very much concerned, however, about his contradictions, particularly in matters regarding the future of the Argentine people."

Caputo said if Menem wins the election, "we might be confronted with some surprises in the economic and foreign policy fields." Caputo added that Menem's contradictions "are quite obvious."

"He goes from promises of high salary increases to tax exemptions," Caputo said. The foreign minister also reiterated his disagreement with Menem's statement regarding the Foreign Ministry's lack of progress on the Malvinas issue in the last few years.

"A few days ago he said the government had to expropriate British property" in Argentina, "then he said we had to negotiate," Caputo added. The foreign minister said he was surprised by Menem's "180-degree turn" on his position on the Malvinas Islands.

"I have always said we have to negotiate" a solution to the problem of the Malvinas Islands, Caputo said. The minister also said he supports dialogue, because "even though dialogue does not produce any magical result, it is a useful tool."

Caputo stressed it is hard for him to believe that Menem had used in Europe "the same argument that the British use: that negotiations come first and the issue of sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands comes later."

Caputo said "I will give him the benefit of the doubt," but reiterated that "these statements are disconcerting and that is why I say there might be more than one surprise if Menem wins the election next year."

Japanese Government To Grant Assistance Loan

PY0311192288 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1358 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Summary] Tokyo, 3 Nov (TELAM-EFE)—The Argentine Foreign Ministry reported today that the Japanese Government has decided to grant Argentina an assistance loan worth 972 million yen ($7.7 million) to improve port facilities.

Cost of Living Increased 9 Percent in October

PY0811105288 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Summary] The INDEC [National Institute of Statistics and Census] has officially announced that in October the cost of living increased by 9 percent in Greater Buenos Aires.

Brazil

'Full Text' of Social Pact Published

PY0711172388 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Nov 88 p B-3

["Full text" of the social pact signed by representatives of the government, workers, and business sectors at the Labor Ministry on 4 November 1988]

[Text] This is the full text of the document entitled:

Social Commitment, Anti-Inflationary Pact.

Convinced that it is necessary to unite efforts in favor of national stability and social justice, and bearing in mind that the central objective of this document is to fight inflation and create the necessary conditions for the resumption of our economic growth, the signatories reaffirm that:

1. To make a social commitment effective, the institutions must be preserved and the national democratic process strengthened;

2. All social forces must be committed to decisively cooperate, through their respective representatives in Congress, to consolidate the structure of a modern and participative democratic state;

3. All sectors must unite their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the principles established in the Constitution promulgated on 5 October 1988;

4. Beyond legitimate, specific, or normal interests, the principles and opinions shared by the signatories of this document are centered on the ideal of greater political and economic stability and a better national social welfare.

Convinced that inflation can only be fought through the negotiated control of prices and salaries, and that the success of the program to be implemented depends fundamentally on the firm and resolute support and cooperation of Brazilian society, the parties decided to sign a premilinary group of commitments aimed at stabilizing the economy for the experimental period of 60 days.

Commitments Regarding Price Policies

The parties herewith agree:

1. That the public utilities rates and the private and public prices will be adjusted by up to 26.5 percent during the period 3 November-2 December 1988, and up to 25 percent during the 3 December-2 January 1989 period. The parties herewith promise to do their best to adjust the prices at percentages below these established limits;

2. To respect the 30-day-minimum limit, starting on 3 October 1988, for the readjustment of the public and private prices;

3. To approve the attached list of basic products, and establish that readjustments in prices of these products must also obey the rules defined in the aformentioned items 1 and 2. The price of the products in this list will be controlled by the signatories;

4. To adopt the necessary mechanisms to increase the availability of these products to the public within the shortest period of time;

5. To control and continuously evaluate the results of the systematic readjustment of prices and their behavior to adequately match the decisions made at the meetings of the representatives of each sector.

On Salary Policy

Commitments:

1. To prevent the decline in the buying power of salaries without precluding gains made through agreements or conventions made on the base dates for salary negotiations;

2. Once a decline in the inflation rate is noticed over a 60-day period, a review of the salary readjustment method and the adoption of a monthly readjustment rule will be set in accordance with targets to be set for prices and salaries.

On Streamlining of Public Finance

Government commitments:

1. The Executive Branch will review, present, discuss, and approve within a 30-day period the proposal for streamlining public finance, pledging before the other signatories of this pact to fulfill its promise.

Brasilia, Federal District, 3 Nov 1988

[Signed] Ronaldo Costa Couto, Minister-Chief of the civilian cabinet; Luiz Antonio de Medeiros, president of the CNTM (National Metalworkers Confederation); Jose Theodoro Guimaraes, national vice president of CGT (General Central Organization of Workers); Antonio Rogerio Magri, CGT international relations secretary; Gilson Cavalcanti, president of the Brazilian Public Servants Confederation; Orlando Coutinho, president of the CNTTT (National Confederation of Land Transport Workers); Jose Alceu Portocarrero, president of CONTCOP (National Confederation of Communication and Publicity Workers); Jose Augusto de Carvalho, president of the CNPL (National Confederation of Liberal Professionals); Miguel Abrao Neto, president of the CNTEEC (National Confederation of Workers in Educational and Cultural Establishments); Jose Calixto Ramos, president of CNTI (National Confederation of Industrial Workers); Arthur Sendas, president of ABRAS (Brazilian Supermarkets Association); Admundo Klotz, president of ABIA (Brazilian Food Industries Association); Antonio de Oliveira Santos, president of CNC (National Commerce Confederation); Romeu Trussardi Filho, president CACB (Brazilian Commercial Associations Confederation); Luiz Roberto Ponte of CBIC (Brazilian Construction Industries Chamber); Alysson Paulinelli, president of CNA (National Agriculture Confederation); Roberto Della Manna, director of FIESP (Sao Paulo State Industries Federation); Arthur Joao Donato, president of FIRJAN (Rio de Janeiro Industries Federation); Mario Amato, FIESP president; Robero Bornhausen, president of CNF (National Financial Institutions Confederation); Albano Franco, president of CNI (National Industry Confederation); Luiz Eulalio Buenos Vidigal, CNI vice president; Luis Carlos Mandelli, president of FIERGS (Rio Grande do Sul Industries Federation); Ricardo Santiago, secretary general of the Planning Ministry; Mauricio Vasconcelos, deputy chief of the civilian cabinet; and Paulo Cesar Ximenes, secretary general of the Finance Ministry.

Civilian Cabinet Office Releases Note on Pact

PY0711171288 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Nov 88 p B-3

[Text of note on anti-inflationary accord signed on 4 November, released by the Civilian Cabinet Office]

[Text] Social Pact Clarifications [subhead]

1. The commitments are valid for an initial 60-day period.

2. All prices of goods and public services will be readjusted to a maximum of 26.5 percent between 3 November and 2 December 1988, and 25 percent between 3 December 1988 and 2 January 1989.

3. Public utility rates and public and private prices, especially industrial prices, may only be readjusted once every 30 days from 3 October 1988 to 2 January 1989. In other words, those whose who made readjustments in October will have to wait 30 days to make new readjustments, which must be within the established limits.

4. A list of basic, essential products for popular consumption has been compiled, the prices of which will also be readjusted by a maximum of 26.5 percent in November and 25 percent in December.

This list will be made public and distributed over this weekend.

5. The rules for setting exchange rates, interest rates, and financial assets' earnings (savings book, open market, overnight market, etc.) will reamin unchanged.

6. The salary policy will not be changed during these 60 days; that is, salaries will be readjusted by the Price Reference Unit (URP) of 21.39 in November and by the URP resulting from the November-October-September averaged Consumer Price Index (IPC).

7. The official inflation rate will continue to be calculated by the IPC, without changing the method of its calculation.

8. After the 60-day period, when an inflation decline is noticed, salaries and prices will be agreed on in the Businessmen, Workers, and Government Committee.

9. A follow-up commission made up of business, labor, and government representatives was formed to permanently oversee the supplies policy (buffer stocks, imports, etc.) in order to prevent inflationary trends.

10. The Businessmen, Workers, and Government Committee will meet periodically to evaluate all the information provided by the follow-up commission. Meetings are scheduled for 9 November and 11 November 1988.

11. Within 30 days, proposals for streamlining the public finance will be examined and hopefully approved by the Executive Branch.

Sarney To Dismiss Officials Against Social Pact

PY0711025388 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Nov 88 p B-4

[Excerpt] President Jose Sarney is determined to dismiss any minister or advisor that fails to adopt the "measures demanded by the social pact." This information was disclosed yesterday evening by Ronaldo Costa Couto, chief of the civilian household, as he was leaving the Sao Jose de Pericuma residence where he had lunch with President Sarney. Costa Couto also disclosed that the government will submit to congress by 30 November a package of fiscal measures that will give continuity to the anti-inflationary agreement. [passage omitted]

Soviet Envoy Discusses Bilateral Cooperation

PY0711124188 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Soviet Embassy Charge d'Affaires Vladimir Turguenev has said that Brazil will profit from Soviet experience in the field of missiles and space technology.

Turguenev has explained that the availabie space technology will be used for peaceful purposes, as established in the new Brazilian Constitution.

He also said the Soviet and Brazilian Governments are studying ways of increasing trade between the two countries. One of the measures to be adopted might be to eliminate double taxation on products traded by the two countries.

Turguenev emphasized that the USSR is interested in cooperating in some projects in the northeastern region of Brazil. One of such projects is the construction of the Transnortheastern railroad.

Army Holds Military Paratrooper Exercise

PY0811025088 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpts] The Army minister has watched the latest stage of Operation SACI. [passage omitted]

This operation has been routinely carried out since 1945 when the Army Paratrooper Brigade was created.

This year the operation took place in Formosa, 140 km from Brasilia. Army Minister Leonidas Pires Concalves, Aeronautics Minister Walter Moreira Lima, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Valbert Lisieux, and Military Household Chief Bayma Denys watched the exercises.

The purpose of the operation is to train the brigade for any war situation.

Altogether, 1,549 men participated in the operation, including 1,008 paratroopers who jumped from 34 Buffalo and Hercules planes in the area of the Army High Command strategic reserve. At the end of the operation the Army minister congratulated the officers. [passage omitted]

No Contamination Coming From U.S. Nuclear Sub

PY0811022788 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] The Radioactivity Protection and Measurement Institute of the CNEN [National Commission for Nuclear Energy] has reported that it has not detected radioactivity in Guanabara Bay waters.

Institute technicians have been taking daily radioactivity measurements around the U.S. nuclear submarine "Shark" since it arrived at Guanabara Bay on 5 November. The measurements are taken when the tide changes.

According to Jose Eduardo Leme Salvatore, adviser to the CNEN security executive board, the technicians have not discovered anything unusual in the bay waters.

[Begin Leme recording] Institute technicians have monitored the bay waters but they have not found anything unusual. Nothing above the usual bay water net radiation was found. [end recording]

The U.S. nuclear submarine "Shark" is part of a 5-ship task force participating in the 29th UNITAS naval exercises. The U.S. ships carry over 2,000 U.S. crewmen and are training with naval ships from other Latin American countries to defend against a possible attack by nuclear submarines.

The Brazilian Government authorized the entry of the task force into Brazilian territorial waters within the framework of a Navy operational program that establishes that the submarine cannot recharge in or dump radioactive materials into Brazilian waters, or [word indistinct] in the vicinity in case of an accident.

Federal Narcotics Council Chairman Named

PY0711121888 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] As of today the Federal Narcotics Council will have a new chairman, criminal lawyer Lercio Peregrino, who will be sworn in this afternoon at the Justice Ministry.

Police Confiscate Drugs, Make Arrests

PY0711121688 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Nov 88 p C-4

[Summary] During a routine inspection, Mato Grosso do Sul federal police yesterday confiscated 957 grams of pure cocaine from Canadian citizens Cristian Hablig and Suzanne Marie Thereze, who were about to board the Corumba-Sao Paulo train. The police also arrested Bolivian Guido Mendes Guardia. He was carrying 3.1 kg of cocaine.

3 More Prisoners Killed; Red Falange Blamed

PY0711180288 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] The Red Falange has again killed prison inmates in Rio de Janeiro. At the Frei Caneca Prison in downtown Rio de Janeiro early today the police found the bodies of three murdered inmates. Sixteen inmates have been killed in 1 week.

At about 0500, the alarm went off at the Helio Gomes Prison in downtown Rio de Janeiro, announcing an escape attempt. Some 90 inmates of the eastern cell block were planning to escape, but they gave up when the prison was surrounded by the Military Police. During the resulting search of the premises three dead bodies were found.

Forensic institute experts have confirmed that the inmates were hanged early this morning with nylon ropes. The prison directorate released the name of the dead prisoners at noon: George Luiz de Penha, Sergio Henrique Santos Martins, and (Miqueias Elias da Silva). The directorate reported that these prisoners last week led the assassination of five prison inmates.

All inmates were taken to the prison's yard to allow the police to remove the dead bodies. At noon the atmosphere at the prison was still tense.

Registered AIDS Cases Increase to 4,709

PY0711143788 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Nov 88 p C-6

[Summary] The Health Ministry yesterday reported that 4,709 AIDS cases have already been registered in Brazil. During the month of October 204 cases were reported.

Chile

Resignation of Army Junta Member Announced

PY0711222588 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] President Pinochet has accepted Lieutenant General Humberto Gordon's resignation as member of the Government Junta, an Army communique reported.

Here is the communique released by the Army Public Relations Department:

1. His excellency the president of the Republic and commander in chief of the Army today accepted the application for retirement filed by Lt Gen Humberto Gordon Rubio.

2. The appointment of the new representative of the Army commander in chief to the Government Junta will be announced later.

Siebert Possible Replacement

PY0711225188 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Although there is no official information about General Humberto Gordon's possible replacement in the Government Junta, information leaks indicate that Public Works Minister Major General Bruno Siebert will be appointed to this post. Gen Siebert is the second most senior Army officer following last week's reshuffle in that branch of the Armed Forces.

Sinclair Named New Member

PY0811012288 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0043 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 7 Nov (EFE)—General Augusto Pinochet, chief executive and commander in chief of the Chilean Army, has appointed Lieutenant General Santiago Sinclair, former Army deputy commander, as the new Army representative in the Government Junta.

The announcement was made a few hours after it was announced that Pinochet had accepted the application for retirement and resignation as junta member submitted by Lt Gen Humberto Gordon Rubio.

Gordon joined the Government Junta in October 1986 after serving for 6 years as director of the National Intelligence Center (CNI, the military regime's secret police).

The junta—which is made up of the commanders in chief of the Navy and the Air Force, the Carabineros director general, and the Army representative—has served as the legislative branch of the military regime since the 11 September 1973 military coup, which forced the closure of the Chilean Congress.

Upon joining the junta, Sinclair will chair the fourth legislative committee.

The current Public Works Minister, Major General Bruno Siebert, the other candidate to replace Gordon as member of the Government Junta, retired today. He will, however, retain his position in the cabinet.

The Army public relations office also reported that Pinochet today promoted Brigadier General Jorge Zincke Quiroz, who has been appointed Army deputy commander in chief replacing Sinclair, to the rank of major general, along with Brig Gen Jaime Gonzalez Vergara.

These new appointments and promotions in the main and oldest branch of the Chilean Armed Forces were released after a lunch that the Chilean chief executive held with 56 generals in La Moneda. The changes, following the retirement of 13 generals on 3 November, took place 33 days after the presidential plebiscite in which Pinochet, running as the sole candidate, was defeated.

New Government Under Secretary Appointed

PY0711235788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Lieutenant General Jaime Garcia Covarrubias has been appointed new government under secretary by President Augusto Pinochet.

Garcia Covarrubias, who was advisor to the ministry secretary general of the presidency, will replace Colonel Alfonso Rivas, who has been appointed military attache to Uruguay. [passage omitted]

Government Appoints Intendant to 8th Region

PY0711235488 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Summary] Brigadier General Alejandro Gonzalez Samohod, intendant of the 9th Region, has been appointed intendant of the 8th Region by the supreme government.

It was also disclosed in military circles that General Alejandro Gonzalez was also appointed commander in chief of the 3d Army Division, headquartered in Concepcion.

Banco del Estado President Replaced 7 Nov

PY0811003288 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Summary] Colonel Dante Santoni, Finance Ministry under secretary, today read a decree signed by President Augusto Pinochet and Finance Minister Hernan Buchi accepting the involuntary resignation of Hernan Arze de Souza as president of Banco del Estado and the appointment to that post of Alvaro Bordon, a well-known economist and champion of the economic policy of General Augusto Pinochet's government. General Osvaldo Palacios, who had been the bank's executive general manager, has been promoted to vice president.

Carabineros Find Four Bombs Placed Near Tower

PY0811000188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Carabineros have found four packets containing explosives at the foot of high tension electric tower No 657 of the Colbun-Machicura line.

The packets were found in plot No 5, El Romeral Sector, 2 km west of southern highway No 5.

The land belongs to Ramon Urrutia Blanco.

Each packet contained 2 kg of amonium gelignite, detonators, fuses, and timing devices.

Specialized personnel believe that the bombs were planted a few days ago so that they could be activated at any time.

'Chacabuco' Joins Northern Coast Patrol

PY0711180988 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] According to Arica Port naval sources, the Chilean Navy has sent an attack vessel to join the Chilean patrol boats that are controlling the activities of a fleet of Soviet, Cuban, and Polish fishing ships that are operating off the northern coast of Chile.

These sources said that the Chilean Navy has sent the "Chacabuco" to join two missile carriers, one barge, and one antisubmarine vessel [fragata caza submarino]. The "Chacabuco" has a displacement of 1,400 tons. It is equipped with helicopters and it is able to transport one full company and its tanks [as heard]. [passage indistinct]

Soviet Plane To Land at Chilean Antarctic Base

PY0811004688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpt] On Tuesday 8 November, for the first time in the history of the Antarctic, a Soviet aircraft transporting eight scientists will land at Chile's Teniente Marx Air Force Base.

The aircraft will then proceed to the Soviet base on King George Island, in the South Shetland Islands. The Chilean base is also located on King George Island.

The air operation will be carried out with prior authorization granted by the Chilean Government and the Air Force High Command, which has jurisdiction over the Teniente Marx base. The base is administered by the 4th Air Brigade, headquartered in Punta Arenas.

The Soviet aircraft is currently in Buenos Aires, from where it will fly to Rio Gallegos Airport, Argentina. It will refuel there and leave for the Antarctic, transporting the scientists and valuable instruments for research purposes.

This information was disclosed by the commander in chief of the 4th Air Brigade, General Rene Alzerreca de Cortazar, who also noted that arrangements are being made for a third polar expedition, with the purpose of extending national sovereignty beyond the 80th parallel. [passage omitted]

Colombia

ELN Reportedly Kidnaps Civil Defense Officials

PA0711193088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2210 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 6 Nov (EFE)—The local police have reported that National Liberation Army (ELN) guerrillas today kidnapped the Antioquia Colombian Civil Defense (DCC) commander.

The police said Major Guillermo Rodriguez Velasquez, retired, was intercepted by an ELN commando while traveling from Doradal to Medellin with Sergeant Miguel Antonio Avila Barreto, also retired, who is the department's DCC recruiter.

The two DCC officials were returning to Medellin when they were kidnapped 1 km from Doradal.

Peasants, Laborers Murdered in Meta, Uraba

PA0711201388 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1754 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Bogota, 7 Nov (DPA)—There are reports today in Bogota that Colombian authorities are still investigating the latest massacre: A few hours ago five peasants were murdered by unidentified individuals in El Castillo, Meta Department.

According to the reports, the peasants were traveling in separate vehicles on a deserted highway when a group of heavily armed men forced them to get out of the cars and then shot them to death.

It has also been confirmed that two banana plantation workers were murdered in Apartado, the leading municipality in the Uraba area.

Ernesto Jimenez Osorio and Ernesto Bermudez Moreno were shot several times, only a few hours after Italian Manlio Scagliarino Manfredini, one of the directors of Banacol, an Uraba banana export company, was murdered.

Although the authorities say they have not determined the motives for the killings, it has been unofficially reported that they were perpetrated by right-wing paramilitary groups operating in the Uraba and Meta banana areas. [passage omitted]

Peru

President Garcia Pressured To Resign

PY0811115388 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0155 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Lima, 7 Nov (EFE)—Important Peruvian personalities have asked for the resignation of President Alan Garcia in view of the current moral and economic deterioration of Peru and the people's lack of confidence in the government.

Although Garcia's resignation has been requested in various ways, the reason given is always the same: "Alan Garcia is the obstacle to the salvation of Peru."

The center-right Solidarity and Democracy party, SODE, (which formed a coalition with Alan Garcia's APRA for the 1985 elections) has sent a public letter to President Garcia in which they state that it is "his duty to resign for the benefit of the people."

The letter released by SODE, which is led by former minister Javier Silva Ruete, states that Garcia has deceived most of the Peruvians who supported him in the 1985 elections. It also states that the "people's demoralization," which according to polls affects three out of every four Peruvians, is a result of "this century's most serious crisis."

SODE reproaches Garcia for the mistakes he made in handling the country in an "autocratic and populist" manner, which overlooked the authority of his party and of his ministers. It also charges him with "mismanagement" of the country during the last 15 months, thus causing and deepening the current economic crisis.

Political leader Alfonso Barrantes, who will probably be the presidential candidate in the 1990 elections for the United Left—the second political force in the country—has said on television that if Alan Garcia "continues to be an obstacle for those who want to save Peru, we must ask him to resign."

The Peruvian Constitution only authorizes moving up presidential elections if the positions of president and vice presidents become vacant as a result of their resignation or for other specified reasons.

Alan Garcia has considered the possibility of leaving office twice during the last 12 months. According to him, the first time he thought about leaving his position was during the heated debate created by his project, not fully implemented yet, of nationalizing the banks.

The second time, a little more than a month ago, he was dissuaded by APRA's main leaders. This has been confirmed by some APRA members.

Although the opposition has already mentioned the possibility of asking the president to resign, no concrete pressure for his resignation had been exerted so far.

Alan Garcia has been in office since the 1985 democratic presidential elections, which he won with a great margin of votes.

Shining Path Terrorists Kill 2 in Puno Attack

PY0711144588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0303 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Lima, 6 Nov (EFE)—It was reported here today that about 30 members of the "Shining Path" terrorist group attacked two police posts in Puno Department. The report adds that two policemen were killed during the attack, two were seriously injured, and one is missing.

According to Civil Guard sources in Puno, the department capital located 1,315 km southeast of Lima, on the evening of 4 November and the predawn hours of 5 November Shining Path guerrillas attacked two police posts using guns and explosives.

The attack, which lasted 7 hours, occurred in the Calapuja District in Lampa Province.

Using submachineguns and hurling dynamite sticks, the Shining Path guerrillas destroyed one Civil Guard post and one Republican Guard post.

After the withdrawal of the guerrillas, who were repelled by the Civil and Republican Guard members, it was established that two Republican Guards were killed, two others were seriously injured, and one member of the Civil Guard was missing.

Since the Shining Path launched the armed struggle in Peru in 1980 12,000 have been killed during subversive and counterinsurgent activities.

Uruguay

Sanguinetti Attends Signing Ceremony in PRC

PY0711182388 Montevideo Radio Libertad Sport Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] President Julio Maria Sanguinetti this morning attended the ceremony for the signing of four cooperation agreements with the PRC.

President Sanguinetti then went to the city of Xian on another leg of his trip to the Far East.

The PRC's highest official, Deng Xiaping, thanked the Uruguayan delegation for their visit to his country. The 80-year-old leader discussed Uruguay during an interview this morning. He said: During the last few years Uruguay has reached an important stage of development. Do not regret the efforts made so far. We hope that you continue to improve the situation of your country.

A communique released a few minutes ago by the Presidency Press Secretariat states that three other agreements were signed today by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Barrios Tassano and PRC officials.

President Sanguinetti is now in Xian.

October Inflation Reported at 7.11 Percent

PY0811012988 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Summary] Ariel Davrieux, director of the Planning and Budget Office, has reported that the October consumer price index went up 7.11 percent, bringing the total increase for this year to slightly over 59 percent.

Suriname

Bouterse Blames DEA for Incident in Brazil

FL0411140888 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The commander of Suriname's Army is blaming the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency for an October arrest in which he and seven friends were beaten and arrested by Brazilian police. General Desi Bouterse called the arrest a trap. He compared the incident to one in 1986 in which one of his aides was arrested in Miami and sentenced to jail for conspiracy to smuggle cocaine. In Washington, a DEA spokesman said the agency had no knowledge of the incident and no connection with Mr Bouterse's arrest.

Air Traffic Controllers Strike for Higher Wages

FL0411221588 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The Association of Air Traffic Controllers have decided to [words indistinct] from this evening. The air traffic controllers are demanding that the reevaluation report is executed. The strike will continue unless an agreement is reached with the minister of economic affairs.

Because of the strike, airplanes wouldn't be allowed to land at Zanderij, Paramaribo, and Nickerie airports. All flights will also be blocked from passing over Suriname. The reevalution report regulates among others, the salary adaptation of the air traffic controllers that was presented last year, November.

According to (Ibana Guasi), secretary of the association, the execution of the report is constantly being hampered by the management of both the air traffic service and the Ministry of Economic Affairs.